

Memorandum



Date: January 20, 2005

Supplement to
Agenda Item No. 10 (A) 7

To: Honorable Chairman Joe A. Martinez and
Members, Board of County Commissioners

From: George M. Burgess
County Manager

Subject: Report on Live Webcasts of Commission and Committee Meetings

The following report has been prepared in response to the request by Commissioner Rebeca Sosa at the November 9, 2004 GOE meeting regarding Agenda Item 3F.

Webcasting will enable the broadcasting of audio/video programming on the Internet through the County's Portal, miamidade.gov. The use of this technology will expand the audience that is able to actively participate in our government's legislative process by allowing on-demand viewing of meetings of the Board of County Commissioners and its Committees and will provide greater information to our citizens and to the world by facilitating access to the County's programming station, Miami-Dade T.V.

The technology will fully integrate into the county's web portal and has the capability of providing the following benefits:

- Live and on-demand webcasting of all meetings held in the Commission Chambers on miamidade.gov.
- Indexing of features allowing quick lookups (ie: by commissioner name, agenda item, keyword).
- Presentation of documents that are synchronized with the live webcast (ie: accompanying maps, powerpoints, etc) for such uses as distance learning.
- Integration of webcasts with interactive features on the County web portal
- On-demand viewing archived video through the County's web portal.
- The ability to conduct surveys among the webcast viewers.
- Notification of upcoming webcasts and event registration (secured login available).

Fiscal Impact

Miami-Dade County has the necessary network and technical infrastructure in place to support webcasting technology for approximately 2,000 concurrent Internet users.

The Enterprise Technology Service Department (ETSD), working with the Department of Procurement Management (DPM), would undertake a competitive process to obtain the required webcasting technology to implement this solution. It is estimated that \$285,000 will be required to obtain a solution that provides the functionality described above. This figure is comprised of the following components:

- Webcasting Software (includes one year maintenance) \$225,000
- Computer hardware upon which to run the above software: \$60,000

Additionally, a position is being requested to administer the program at a cost of \$76,000.

To provide access to more than 2,000 concurrent internet viewers would require funding for additional licensing and network capacity.

Commissioner Sosa also requested an update on other technology projects, and a presentation is currently being developed by the Chief Information Officer for placement on an upcoming full commission agenda.

Potential Funding Source

The County has budgeted financing proceeds to cover anticipated capital costs associated with implementing the 311 Answer Center. In addition, pay as you go funding has been budgeted in the Capital Outlay Reserve (COR) for other 311 Answer Center related automation projects. The financed capital costs are less than anticipated, thereby freeing up financing proceeds that can pay for other automation projects originally funded in the COR. As a result, the freed up COR funds can be used to cover the costs associated with the webcasting project.

Future annual operating expenses, estimated at 20% of the cost of the solution, could be built into the fiscal year 05/06 budget.



Judi Zito, Chief Information Officer